

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1 – 31 (Cancelled)

32. (Currently Amended) A filter retrieval system comprising:
a catheter including an elongate shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, and a wall defining a shaft lumen;
a proximal guidewire port disposed distal of the proximal end of the elongate shaft;
a generally conical tip disposed near the distal end of the elongate shaft, the conical tip having an aperture defining a distal guidewire port;
a guidewire extending through the distal guidewire port and the proximal guidewire port; and
a filter ~~disposed on~~ coupled to the guidewire.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein the generally conical tip comprises a flexible tip member.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein at least a portion of the flexible tip member is disposed within the shaft lumen.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the flexible tip member is moveable relative to the elongate shaft.

36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 35, wherein the flexible tip member moves between an extended position and a retracted position.

37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 32, wherein the generally conical tip has a generally tapered shape.

38. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 32, wherein the generally conical tip comprises a flexible material allowing deflection of the generally conical tip.

39. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 32, wherein the generally conical tip folds proximally as the filter passes through the aperture of the generally conical tip.

40. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 32, wherein the generally conical tip expands radially as the filter passes through the aperture of the generally conical tip.

41. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the elongate shaft further comprises a proximal stop mechanism disposed in a distal portion of the shaft lumen.

42. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41, wherein the proximal stop mechanism limits retraction of the flexible tip member within the shaft lumen.

43. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41, wherein the flexible tip member seats against the stop mechanism when the tip member is in a retracted position.

44. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 41, wherein the proximal stop mechanism comprises a stop member.

45. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the proximal stop mechanism comprises an annular bead.

46. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 41, wherein the proximal stop mechanism comprises a flange.

47. (Currently Amended) A catheter system for retrieving a filter, comprising:

an elongate shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, and a wall defining a shaft lumen, the shaft lumen having a diameter sized to accommodate a filter;

a proximal guidewire port disposed distal of the proximal end of the elongate shaft; and

a generally conical tip having an outer diameter and an aperture defining a guidewire port connected to a portion of the elongate shaft proximate the distal end of the elongate shaft;

wherein the outer diameter of the generally conical tip is slightly smaller than the diameter of the shaft lumen such that the generally conical tip is retractable into the shaft lumen.

48. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein the generally conical tip comprises a flexible tip member.

49. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, wherein at least a portion of the flexible tip member is disposed within the shaft lumen.

50. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, wherein the flexible tip member is moveable relative to the elongate shaft.

51. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 50, wherein the flexible tip member moves between an extended position and a retracted position.

52. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, wherein the generally conical tip has a generally tapered shape.

53. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 47, wherein the generally conical tip comprises a flexible material allowing deflection of the generally conical tip.

54. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 47, wherein the generally conical tip folds proximally as a filter is urged through the aperture of the generally conical tip.

55. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 47, wherein the generally conical tip expands radially as a filter is urged through the aperture of the generally conical tip.

56. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 48, wherein the elongate shaft further comprises a proximal stop mechanism disposed in a portion of the shaft lumen.

57. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 56, wherein the proximal stop mechanism limits retraction of the flexible tip member within the shaft lumen.

58. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 56, wherein the flexible tip member seats against the stop mechanism when the tip member is in a retracted position.

59. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 56, wherein the proximal stop mechanism comprises a stop member.

60. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 56, wherein the proximal stop mechanism comprises an annular bead.

61. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 56, wherein the proximal stop mechanism comprises a flange.

62. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 47, further comprising:
a means for grasping a guidewire.

63. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 62, wherein the means for grasping a guidewire comprises a wire gripper.

64. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 63 wherein the wire gripper comprises a plurality of jaws for grasping a guidewire.

65. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 62, further comprising:
a hub disposed about a portion of the elongate shaft proximate the proximal end;
and

a slider disposed within a portion of the hub, wherein the slider includes the means for grasping a guidewire.

66. (Currently Amended) A filter retrieval system comprising:
a catheter including an elongate shaft having a proximal end, a distal end, and a wall defining a shaft lumen;

a stop mechanism disposed in a distal portion of the elongate shaft;

a proximal guidewire port disposed distal of the proximal end of the elongate shaft; and

a generally conical tip disposed near the distal end of the elongate shaft, the generally conical tip having an aperture defining a distal guidewire port, wherein the generally conical tip is displaced such that the generally conical tip seats against the stop mechanism upon introducing a filter within the shaft lumen.